SPECIAL FEATURE NO. 3-1820 JUNE 20, 1978
DAVID LENT/ROME

POPE PAUL'S ANNIVERSARY

TAPE CUTS IN LIBRARY, MUSIC CLEAN AFTER THE ENGLISH VERSION OF THE SPECIAL FEATURE.

ANNCR:

ON JUNE TWENTY-FIRST, NINETEEN SIXTY THREE, CARDINAL GIOVANNI BATTISTA MONTINI -- ARCHBISHOP OF MILAN -- WAS ELECTED POPE -- AND ADOPTED THE NAME: PAUL THE SIXTH. IN ROME, CELEBRATIONS OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS ACCESSION TO THE THRONE OF SAINT PEPTER HAVE ALREADY BEGUN -- AS VOAS DAVID LENT REPORTS. (OPT) MUSIC -- FADE AFTER FIFTEEN SECONDS, HOLD UNDER THROUGH FIRST GRAF.

VOICE:

THE ITALIAN STATE RADIO AND TELEVISION ORCHESTRA AND CHOIR PERFORMING SCHUBERT'S MASS IN E FLAT MAJOR -- BEGINNING A WEEK OF CELEBRATION. THE EIGHTY-YEAR-OLD PONTIFF -- RESPLENDENT IN SCARLET ROBES -- SAT AMONG THOUSANDS OF GUESTS IN THE VATICAN'S MODERNISTIC AUDIENCE HALL FOR THE CONCERT IN HIS HONOR. (END OPT)

THE ANNIVERSARY -- AND THE PONTIFF'S OWN ADMISSION THAT HE SEES THE END OF HIS REIGN APPROACHING -- HAVE GIVEN RISE TO RETROSPECTIVE ANALYSES OF THE NATURE OF HIS PAPACY AND THE LEGACY HE WILL LEAVE HIS SUCCESSOR:

TAPE: CUT ONE -- GRAHAM

"I THINK HE LEAVES TO HIS SUCCESSOR A TANGIBLE HERITAGE..."

VOICE:

FATHER ROBERT GRAHAM -- A JESUIT WRITER AND HISTORIAN INVOLVED IN THE PUBLISHING OF THE PAPERS OF POPE PIUS THE TWELFTH.

TAPE: CUT TWO -- GRAHAM

"HE HAS ESTABLISHED IN THE TRADITIONS AND WORKS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH THE SPIRIT OF VATICAN TWO. THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT THE NEXT POPE MIGHT NOT HAVE TO DO SOME THINGS WHICH PAUL THE SIXTH FELT HIMSELF UNABLE TO DO, OR FOR WHICH HE MAY HAVE THOUGHT THE TIME IS NOT YET RIPE. THERE ARE A GOOD MANY UNFINISHED QUESTIONS IN THE PAPACY'S POLICY."

VOICE:

FATHER GRAHAM BELIEVES ONE SUCH AREA IS THE PONTIFF'S POLICY OF ATTEMPTING TO ESTABLISH A MODUS VIVENDI WITH THE COMMUNIST REGIMES OF EASTERN EUROPE. ANOTHER AREA IS DOCTRINE:

TAPE: CUT THREE -- GRAHAM

"THERE ARE OTHER PROBLEMS IN DOCTRINAL MATTERS. NO DOUBT FREE-WHEELING IN DOCTRINAL MATTERS IS CERTAINLY A STIMULANT FOR SCIENTIFIC AND THEOLOGICAL PROGRESS. HOWEVER, IT HAS CERTAIN DANGERS. BECAUSE THEOLOGIANS HAVE A TENDENCY TO GO OFF ON THEIR OWN. IF THEY WISH TO BE FAITHFUL TO THE GENERAL LINE OF TRADITION, THERE IS AN AUTHORITY, AN ARBITER A JUDGE, AND IT IS THE POPE."

VOICE:

AND IT WAS POPE PAUL WHO -- ASSUMING THE THRONE OF SAINT PETER AS SUCCESSOR TO THE BELOVED POPE JOHN THE TWENTY-THIRD -- CONTINUED THE WORK JOHN HAD BEGUN IN THE ECUMENICAL COUNCIL. REFORM CARRIED OUT BY PAUL IN THE FIRST THREE YEARS OF HIS PAPACY ARE VIEWED AS BRINGING THE CHURCH INTO THE MODERN WORLD.

THE MASS WAS SIMPLIFIED -- AND MANDATORY USE OF LATIN WAS DROPPED. THESE WERE BUT OUTWARD SYMBOLS OF A FUNDAMENTAL REVOLUTION IN THE CHURCH. FROM A RIGID SYSTEM UNDER WHICH PRIESTS ADMINISTERED RITES TO A LARGELY PASSIVE FLOCK OF THE FAITHFUL, VATICAN TWO BEGAN MORE DIRECT INVOLVEMENT OF LAYMEN IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH.

SWEEPING CHANGES ENGENDERED SWEEPING REACTIONS. CONSERVATIVE CATHOLICS -- ACCUSTOMED TO A STRICT HIERARCHICAL APPROACH -- WERE SHOCKED BY PAUL'S REFORMING ZEAL. FRENCH

ARCHBISHOP MARCEL LEFEBVRE TYPIFIES THE TRADITIONALISTS. HIS CONTINUED ORDINATION OF PRIESTS ACCORDING TO THE OLD RITES IS CONDEMNED BY THE VATICAN AS "ILLEGITIMATE" AND TENDING TO PROMOTE SCHISM IN THE CHURCH.

ON THE OTHER END OF THE SCALE, LIBERAL PRELATES CHAFE AT PAUL'S REFUSAL TO GO FURTHER: HE HAS DESCRIBED THE CHURCH AS "TENACIOUSLY CONSERVATIVE" -- AND HAS BEEN UNYIELDING IN HIS INSISTANCE ON PRIESTLY CELIBACY AND HIS OPPOSITION TO ARTIFICIAL BIRTH CONTROL AND ABORTION.

FATHER GRAHAM -- THE HISTORIAN -- TAKES THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE -- AND VIEWS THE CHURCH AS AN ENDURING INSTITUTION DELICATELY BALANCED BETWEEN CHANGE AND TRADITION. POPE PAUL, HE SAYS -- IS LEAVING HIS MARK ON THIS INSTITUTION.

(OPT) MUSIC UP BRING CLOSING CUT UP UNDER VOICE (END OPT)

VOICE:

BUT THAT IS THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE.

(OPT) MUSIC UP, HOLD FIVE SECONDS, FADE (END OPT)

VOICE:

FOR THE PRESENT, THE CHURCH IS CELEBRATING THE FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF A VICAR OF ROME WHO HAS BEEN AT ONE AND THE SAME TIME A REFORMER AND AN ADAMANT PRESERVER OF TRADITION.

(OPT) MUSIC UP, THEN FADE FOR SIGNATURE, THEN UP AND HOLD TO END. (END OPT)

WJL/RCS